



Natural Resources Conservation Service
Conservation Across America

Pasture Planting

Job Sheet – 512



Photo from "Forages 5" Edition" CD-ROM Companion, Iowa State University Press

Arrowleaf Clover

DESCRIPTION - Arrowleaf clover is a cool season, reseeding annual. Its early growth is made from a leafy rosette similar to crimson clover and produces fibrous branching stems ranging from 24 to 40 inches. Plants are upright with large arrow-shaped leaves marked with a characteristic "V" in white or in a lighter green than the rest of the leaf.

VARIETIES-

- ❖ **Amclo- Earliest** maturing of the three varieties. Seed production begins about April 15.
- ❖ **Yuchi- Intermediate** in maturity date. Seed productions begin about May 15.
- ❖ **Meechee- Latest** maturing, with maturity more than two months later than crimson. It is reported to be more cold hardy than the other two strains. Seed production begins about June 1.

ADAPTATION - Adapted to sandy to loamy soils (except sandy soils over 24 inches deep) with pH 5.5 - 7.0 and good drainage. Late maturity, low bloat potential, good cold tolerance.

PLANTING DATES - September 15 to November 30. (October preferred).

PLANTING RATE - 10 lbs. PLS properly inoculated seed per acre.

PLANTING DEPTH - $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep.

SEEDBED PREPARATON – For sod seeding, reduce grass height to approximately 2 inches by mowing or grazing and drill seed into sod or straight disk, broadcast seed and roll. Where more land preparations are needed for land leveling, etc., the

seedbed should be firmed by rolling before and after planting or use a cultipacker to plant seed.

FERTILIZER AND LIME - Lime and fertilizer should be applied as recommended by a current soil test. Soil testing and lime application should be done in the summer prior to planting.

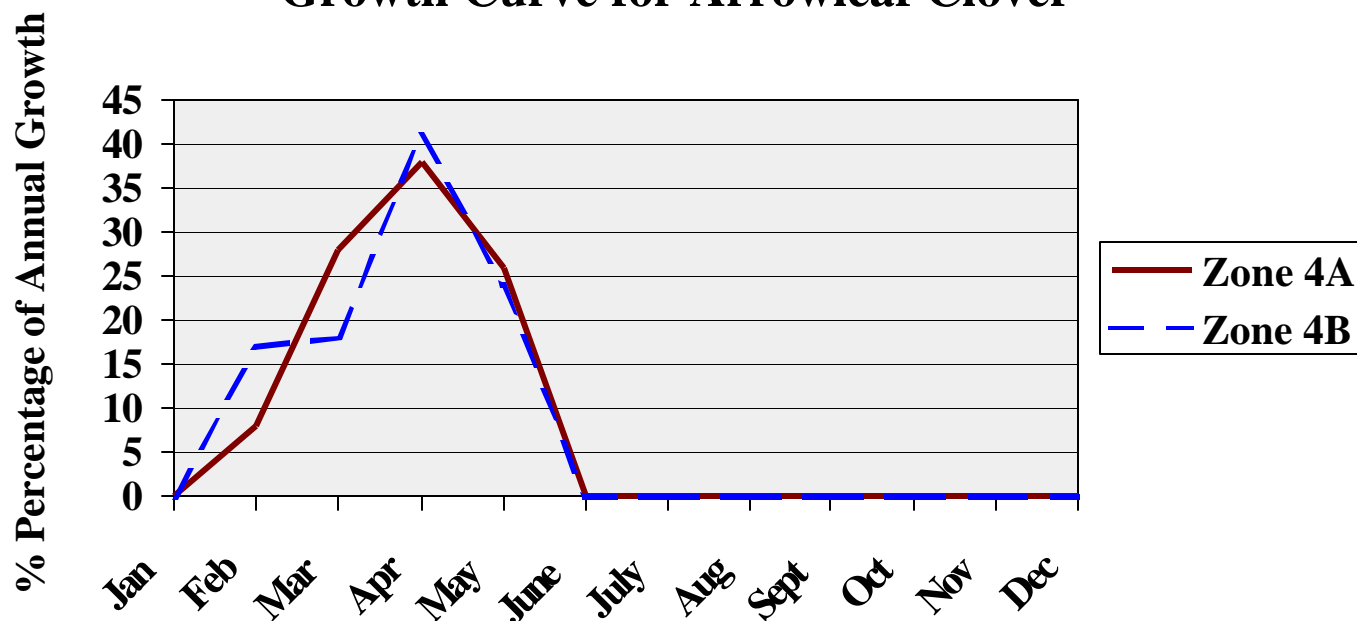
MANAGEMENT - Grazing should not be initiated until will established. Grazing should be controlled beginning about May 15 so that sufficient seed matures to reseed the crop. After sufficient seed have matured, regulate grazing so that a heavy stand of clover does not "smother out" warm season grasses. Management of this legume on grass for hay meadow is difficult because the late growth of the legume provides severe competition to the grass. Graze pasture down to 2 inches about October 15 and straight disk or harrow to open up the sod so emerging arrowleaf seeding receives sufficient light to improve potential of re-seeding.

HERBICIDES AND HERBICIDE RESIDUE

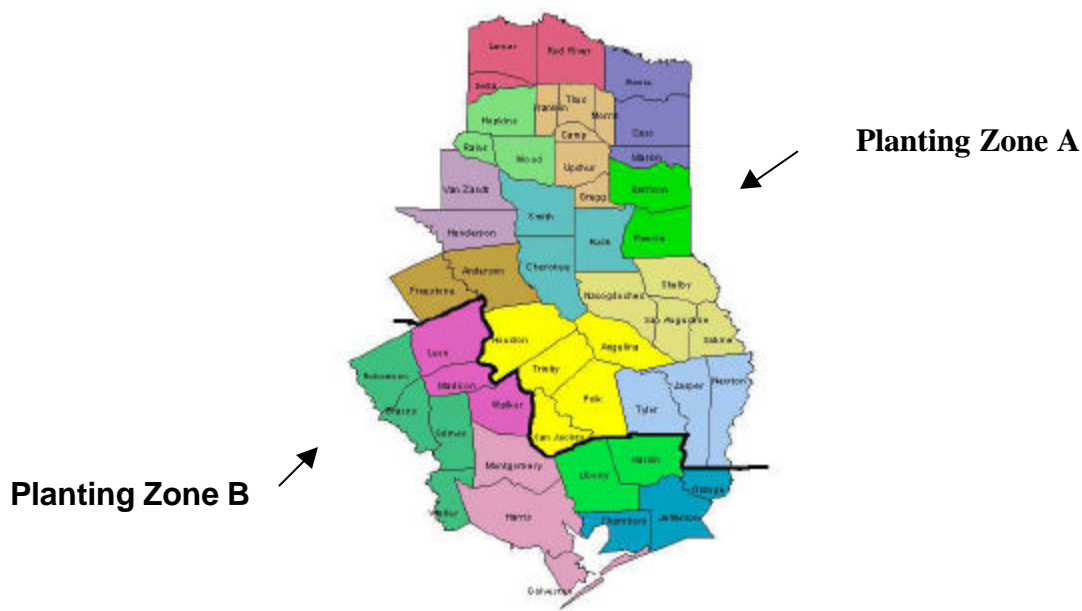
PROBLEMS- Some pasture herbicides applied in the spring can prevent clover/medic establishment in the fall. Residue problem herbicides are Grazon P+D, Amber, and Ally. Known safe herbicides are 2, 4-D and Weedmaster. All "broadleaf" pasture herbicides will kill or severely damage most clovers/medics if sprayed during active growth. Use "safe" herbicides after medic/clover seed set to control problem weeds. May have to use higher rates because of the delayed application date. A good medic/clover stand will reduce weed potential by direct competition with winter/spring weeds.

Hay fed free choice will reduce the chance of bloat when cattle are grazing lush clover.

Growth Curve for Arrowleaf Clover



Actual growth is dependent upon local climate and seasonal variations in temperature and rainfall. Growth curve assumes adequate fertility based on soil test recommendation.



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